



PAJARO VALLEY WATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY

36 BRENNAN STREET • WATSONVILLE, CA 95076

TEL: (831) 722-9292 FAX: (831) 722-3139

Email: info@pvwater.org • <http://www.pvwater.org>

PUBLIC NOTICE

RELEASE AND AVAILABILITY OF FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT:

Basin Management Plan Update

DATE OF NOTICE: FEBRUARY 28, 2014

By this notice, the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency (PVWMA or Agency), as California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Lead Agency, is announcing the availability of the **Final Environmental Impact Report (Final EIR) for the Basin Management Plan (BMP) Update (SCH#2000062030)**. The Draft EIR was released for public review on October 18, 2013. The Draft and Final EIR are available on <http://www.pvwater.org>

This Notice is intended to inform interested parties of the release of the Final Environmental Impact Report for the BMP Update Project. This notice also provides information on meetings to be held on the Project. Upcoming public hearing is scheduled for March 19, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. by the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency Board of Directors.

The hearing will be held at City of Watsonville Council Chambers, 275 Main St, 4th Floor, Watsonville, CA 95076. Questions on the hearing or additional information should be directed to Mary Bannister, General Manager, at (831) 722-9292, Fax: (831) 722-3139, or E-mail:

EIR@pvwater.org.

Project Description

The BMP Update covers the geographical jurisdiction of the PVWMA, located in the south Santa Cruz County and includes portions of south Santa Cruz County, north Monterey County, a small area of west San Benito County and includes the City of Watsonville. The BMP Update represents a comprehensive set of actions to stop seawater intrusion and overdraft of the Pajaro Valley groundwater basin. The recommended BMP Update consists of the following components to reduce groundwater pumping: Conservation, Increased Recycled Water Storage, Increased Recycled Water Deliveries, Harkins Slough Recharge Facilities Upgrades, Watsonville Slough with Recharge Basins, College Lake with Inland Pipeline to Coastal Distribution System, and Murphy Crossing with Recharge.

The Draft EIR identified significant and unavoidable impacts to agricultural resources. The Draft EIR determined that all other significant impacts could be reduced to a less-than-significant level through the incorporation of mitigation or project design features, including within the following impact sections: aesthetics; air quality and greenhouse gases; biological resources; cultural resources; energy, utilities and services; geology and soils; hazards and hazardous materials; surface water, groundwater and water quality; noise and vibration; and transportation and traffic.

The Agency prepared the Draft EIR and released this document for public review and comment on October 18, 2013. The formal comment period closed on December 9, 2013. Pursuant to the Guidelines for the California Environmental Quality Act Section 15088, the Agency has evaluated comments on environmental issues received from persons who received the Draft EIR and prepared written responses. These responses are included in the Final EIR.

The Agency invites interested members of the public to review the Final EIR and attend meetings related to the Agency's consideration of this project.

Address Where Copy of Draft and Final EIR are Available for Review:

PVWMA Office*	Watsonville Main	Watsonville Freedom
36 Brennan St.	Branch Library	Branch Library
Watsonville, CA 95076	275 Main St	2021 Freedom Blvd
	Watsonville, CA 95076	Freedom, CA 95019

*Reference documents are available for review at this location upon request

The Draft and Final EIR are available in hard copy or CD format for purchase at the PVWMA Office and also available without charge on the PVWMA website: <http://www.pvwater.org/>.

Upcoming Meetings: March 5, 2014 and March 19, 2014

The Final EIR will be presented at a Board of Directors meeting on March 5, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.

A public hearing will be held at the Board of Directors meeting on March 19, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

**Both meetings will be held at:
City of Watsonville Council Chambers, 275 Main St, 4th Floor,
Watsonville, CA 95076.**

The purpose of these meetings is to gather public input prior to taking action on the proposed project. The Agency will consider the Final Environmental Impact Report, input from public testimony and other relevant information and may take one or more of the actions described below at the March 19, 2014 Meeting:

- (1) Certification of the Final Environmental Impact Report,
- (2) approval of the BMP Update project or an alternative, and
- (3) adoption of a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program.

For additional information, please contact: Mary Bannister at (831) 722-9292 or EIR@pvwater.org.